ALEXANDRIA:

FRIDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 21, 1860.

Congress .- In the Senate, yesterday, after a debate the committee of thirteen, under the resolution of Mr. Powell, was appointed. In the House of Representatives, the Pacific Railroad bill was passed.

THE SECESSION OF SOUTH CAROLINA.

We, this morning, perform the painful duty of announcing the secession of one of the States of our once glorious Union; that Union created by the Fathers whose memory we reverence, and whose principles we

one o'clock, the State of South Carolina, by her representatives, in Convention assembled at Charleston, by an unanimous vote, declared that the connexion between herself and the rest of the States was severed and dissolved.

At a public meeting of the citizens of Frederick county, Virginia, held at Winchester, on the 14th instant, resolutions were adopted, prepared by Robert J. Conrad, esq., which declare that the Northern States should cease hostile action and repeal their "personal liberty" laws-that the Legislature should pass at its next session such stringent measures of commercial non-intercourse as the constitution will allow-that there is no cause, at this time, to justify the secession of any State from the Union-that if any Convention is necessary it should be a general one of the people of the United States; and that in the event of Disunion, Virginia should gravely deliberate before deciding upon her future position. Accompanying these resolutions was an able address, also prepared by Mr. Conrad, enforcing the position taken in the resolutions.

Hon. A. H. Handy, special Commissioner from the State of Mississippi, addressed a very large meeting of the citizens of Baltimore, on Wednesday night. He recapitulated the grievances of the South; the wrong doing at the North, and the means and ability of the South to protect herself. He concluded by saying that "the Southern States will go out of the Union, for the purpose of getting right in the Union, and whether right or wrong, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Louisiana, Texas and Mississippi will be out before the 4th of March, and South Carolina and Mississippi will be prepared to defend themselves."

The speech of Senator Johnson, of Tennessee, attracts much attention. All the old line Jackson men seem to march square up to Jackson's doctrines about nullification, secession, and "force-bills"--Amos Kendall, Cave Johnson, and the rest. They hold on to the "Old Heroe's principles," and do not give in an inch. But these are not Jackson times. What he could do then, cannot be done now. We may remark that Senator Johnson is roundly "dealt with" in the Washington Constitution, and the most injurious reflections east upon him.

By the pony express, which passed Fort Kearney on Tuesday, we have San Francisco dates to the 5th inst. Business in San Francisco was generally dull, so far as related to commercial affairs. The official returns of the vote of the State in the Presidential election were opened and counted by the Seeretary of State on the 3d inst., and showed a plurality for Lincoln of 757. The dates from Oregon by this arrival are to the 28th ult., and from British Columbia to the 19th; but from the meagre details furnished, we do not gather anything of striking interest.

The New York members of Congress, in caucus, are said to have passed resolutions, in favor of a due observance of the laws in all the States, and an enforcement of the laws of the General Government everywhere-believing that a remedy for existing grievances can be obtained under the present Constitution.

A disastrous fire occurred on Wednes day, at No. 26 and 28 Frankfort street, New York, a seven story building, occupied by different persons. The loss is estimated at about one hundred thousand dollars, about one-half covered by insurance.

The National Intelligencer remarks that in 1850, Mr. Cobb, of Georgia, wrote a three columns letter against Secession; whilst in 1860 he fills six columns with a letter in favor of Secession.

Hon. F. W. Pickens, the new Governor of South Carolina, was the late American min-Ester to Russia, and has but recently returned home, Gen. W. W. Harlee is the new Lieut.

The Lectures at the Smithsonian Institution, in Washington, have commenced .-

Prof. Rogers, of Philadelphia, is now lecturing on Civil Engineering. The appropriation of \$900,000 for the

suppression of the African slave trade, was passed in the House of Representatives, on Wednesday.

The nomination of Hon. Jeremiah S. Black to the office of Secretary of State, in the place of General Cass, resigned, was confirmed by the Senate on Monday.

The Martford (Conn.) Times notices the present brisk trade in weapons of death .-Col. Colt turns out 300 revolvers a day com-

mlete. The Nashville Gazette learns by private Better from Cincinnati that five thousand snechanics have been discharged in that city St. Francis Xavier's church, in Sixteenth Gaines is to come again before the Supreme within the past six days.

NEWS OF THE DAY.

"To show the very age and body of the TIMES."

A melancholy occurrence took place on Wednesday, at the residence of Mr. S. Morgan Ramsey, in Philadelphia. It appears that his son, Norton, aged 11 years, having gone to the bureau to look for some tickets, saw a pistol, and innocently taking it out, pointed it at his sister, Kate Ella Ramsey, aged nine years, who was dressing herself. He exclaimed, "take care, I'll shoot you. The domestic, who was present, cried out, 'don't do that, I'll call your father." She started to call Mr. Ramsey, when the pistol was discharged, the ball entering the body of Kate, breaking her left collar-bone and traversing her lungs. She died in a few

The Mobile Advertiser calls attention to the tendency of cotton to take "the back track," instead of coming forward to the Gulf ports, as hitherto, for shipment. Since the States of Alabama and Mississippi, says the Register, constructed their railroads, "the outrageous phenomenon has presented itself" of the cotton bales being spirited away from Mobile and New Orleans, and passing Northward by railroad or steamboat to enrich the actors of Virginia, Maryland or New York. It is stated that a single Memphis trader has just visited Norfolk to negotiate for the transmission of 25,000 bales by way of that port.

The bill amendatory of the Pacific telegraph law, introduced by Mr. Ely in the House, proposes to extend the time for the completion of the line to the 1st of December, 1863. It allows the company to remove Yesterday, at one quarter of an hour after or rebuild their line upon any railroad which may be constructed by the U.S. government from any part of the Mississippi valley to the Pacific. Should the company issue bonds and sell the same, the government, if required, is authorized to pay the amount of subsidy to the telegraph company in discharge of the coupons to said bids.

The Sans of Temperance of South Carolina, it appears, are about to secede from the National Division. Several of the subordinate divisions have demanded a meeting of the Grand Division of the State to adopt the necessary measures, and they call upon the entire Order in the Southern States to follow suit, and to form a "National Division of a Southern Confederacy." The reason assigned for this movement is that the Order in Massachusetts has admitted blacks on a full equality with white members.

On Monday night, in Philadelphia, during the performance at the Walnut Street Theatre, a great excitement was caused by a cry is a representation of a house on fire. This was not generally known, and when the flames burst forth in every direction, they appeared so natural as to occasion the cry of

The Troy Whig says: "It was stated pubwritten Secretary Cass a patriotic and able letter, in which he took advantage of his many years of friendship to offer some advice in reference to the present crisis. Gen. Wool is an open, undisguised opponent of secession, and we understand he advised General Cass that the first duty of the government was the arming of Fort Moultrie.'

Two white men named Waters, and a mulatto named Wilson, at Mosely Hall, a village in North Carolina, were arrested a few days ago for hurraing for Lincoln and the abolitionists, and severely beating a citizen who remonstrated with them. They were immediately tried by a jury, who ordered them to be whipped and have their heads shaved. The verdict was carried out on the

A few days ago a man named Richard Lisson was tarred and feathered and ridden on a rail in the town of Handsboro'. Mississippi, by the vigilance committee there, who have already hung a suspected abolitionist named Macintosh, and have in jail another suspected abolitionist named David Meagner. The committee sent Lisson to New Orleans, to be shipped North.

A few nights since the Rev. Mr. Buchan, residing at Stirling, Canada West, was struck twice over the head while in bed, and jumping up seized his assailant, who proved to be his housekeeper, Mrs. McAvoy, who confessed to intending to murder him and then rob and set fire to the house. She was sent

The Pittsburg Chronicle is informed by a gentleman direct from the Pennsylvania oil regions, that many of the wells which yielded large quantities of oil have dwindled down to almost nothing, and some have been sold out because the yield would not pay the expense of working them.

The year 1861 will be the first of the 660th Olympied. There will be an annual eclipse of the sun on the 11th of January, another on the 7th of July, and a total eclipse on the 31st of December. There will also be a partial eclipse of the moon on the 17th of

The De Groot claim, which was not allowed by Secretary Cobb, is on the table of his successor, by whom it is likely to be paid. There is much excitement in regard to it. and the lobby, who are interested to the amount of thirty-eight thousand dollars, are ravenous for the spoils.

The report of the Commissioner of the General Land Office shows that the coal fields of the United States cover apwards of two hundred thousand square miles, and are eapable of supplying steam power equal to the whole physical force for the present population of the globe.

A large mass meeting "for Italy and Garibaldi" was held at Cooper Institute, N. Y. on Tuesday evening, at which addresses were delivered by Hon John A. Dix, who presided, Mr. Luther R. Marsh, Rev. Dr.

Hitchcock, Rev. I. C. Fletcher and others. The Albany Journal describes an expert swindle, which is to scatter "Counterfeit Detectors" through the West, describing as good, bogus monsy, and then passing it off for wheat and pork. This has been done on

a pretty large scale recently. The ladies of Chicago are so enraged at Mr. Burch, on account of the late divorce case, that the police have been called out on one occasion to prevent a threatened feminine mob from lynching him.

Longevity, Democracy and matrimony are the strong points of Mr. James Douglas, Coventry, Ct. He is 104, has been married over 70 years, and always voted the Democratic ticket.

The new steamer John P. King, which was destroyed by fire at New York on Tuesday, cost \$162,000, and was insured for \$100,000. Her machinery will be saved in a damaged state.

The calamity in the Chesapenke bay, near Swann Point, on Tuesday morning, by which nine persons lost their lives, has cast a gloom over the eastern part of Baltimore.

The Roman Catholie Bishop of Monterey, Mexico, is in New York. He preached at street, on Sunday.

In Philadelphia, on Monday evening, a man named Edward D. Brown, preprietor of a liquor store in Front street, below Arch, called upon one Dennis McCarthy Sheehan, who keeps a low groggery in Water street, below Lombard, for the purpose of collecting a bill due from the latter. High words ensued between the two, and Brown was in the act of leaving the premises, when Sheehan drew a pistol and sent two slugs crash-

In the case of the Rock Island Railroad Company vs. J. W. Bissell, for conspiracy to burn the railroad bridge across the Mississippi, at Rock Island, the jury returned a verdict of not guilty. The jury based their verdict on the ground that the bridge was erroneously described in the indictment .-Bissell was re-arrested on a charge of conspiracy to burn that part of the bridge belonging to the Rock Island Railroad Company, and was held to bail, which he refused to give, and went to jail.

ing into the brain of the former, killing him

Charles Hortz, Sr., an old and respected citizen, of Philadelphia, died on Sunday. During the disastrous riots in July, 1844, when an excited mob had planted a loaded cannon in front of the church of St. Philip de Neri, in Queen street, with the avowed determination to batter down that edifice, Mr. Hortz, deliberately marched through the excited multitude with a pitcher of water in his hand, and as coolly poured its contents into the touch-hole of the deadly engine.

We find the following novel announcement in the list of marriages published the New York papers, of Monday: Wareham, Mass., Dec. 10, by Rev. Mr. Clary, Mr. Andrew D. Fuller, of Livermore, Me., and Miss Abby H. Green, of Wareham. This couple never saw each other before, the courtship having been carried on by the and therefore can back her boy. brother of the bridegroom. They were introduced after 11, a. m., and before 12 the bridegroom was on his way "East," again."

It is stated that Gen. Cass will remain in Washington a few weeks, as his son-in-law, Col. Ledyard, will not probably desire to return with his family of young children to Detroit, at this inclement season. It is regretted by the citizens and visitors to Washington that many of the pictures and other works of art which now adorn the General's mansion, could not be retained in the metro-

On Friday last three negroes, viz:-Levi Jenkins, aged 35, under sentence of death for rape upon a negro girl; John Channon, aged 18, under similar sentence for the murder of a lovely white girl of 14 summers, of fire. The audience was terrified, and rose | and a colored woman, of 18 years, for the en masse. A fearful rush was made for the murder of an innocent babe, of fourteen doors. It seems that in the second act there | months, suffered the penlalty of the law, at Georgetown, Delaware.

The "Bell and Everett Constitutional Club" of New Orleans, having a surplus of eightyone dollars after the expenses of the Presidential campaign, decided to send that sum to the "Mount Vernon Ladies' Association," licly in this city a day or two ago, that our as an additional tribute of their love of the fellow-townsman, Major-General Wool, had Union, reverence for Washington, and ap- on the political split in the United States, preciation of a cause to which Mr. Everett has so closely allied himself.

> Com. Chas. T. Platt, aged 65 years, died suddenly at Newburg, N. Y., on the 12th inst. The deceased was an officer in the United States Navy, and was wounded at the battle of Lake Champlain. He was also at the battle of Lake Eric. He entered the naval service of his country in the year 1812, and continued in it till the day of his death, a period of nearly 48 years.

> On Sunday evening a fire broke out at Marietta, Pa., in a two-story frame house occupied by a colored man named John Walker, and before it was discovered, or before assistance reached the spot, the interior was a sheet of flame, and four children three of them belonging to Walker, and the other a child of his sister-in-law-perished

> Gov. Hicks, of Maryland, has issued his proclamation, earnestly inviting the people of that State to comply with the recommendation of the President of the United States, to observe Friday, the 4th of January, as a day of humiliation, fasting and prayer, in view of the perilous condition of the coun-

Mr. Cass, in his letter of resignation to the President, which is brief, approves of the annual message, save in one particular, which he plainly states. The President in acknowledging the receipt of the letter, regrets the difference of opinion, and both gentlemen exchange friendly assurances.

In the Common Council of Boston, on Thursday last, an order was introduced for the appointment of a Joint Committee to consider the expediency of the city insuring against losses' by fire within its borders, and making the Cochituate water free to all persons living in Boston.

The citizens of Charleston, S. C., are about to present Col. W. Corcoran, of the sixty-ninth New York regiment, a gold-headed Palmetto cane, in admiration of his spirit in refusing to participate with his regiment in the reception of the Prince of Wales in | thousands.

In a small village of Illinois may be seen daily taking his morning walk a jolly old | Morgan, resigned, Frenchman, who prides himself on having built the first house on the spot where Chicago, the groud Queen of the West, now spreads herself with her 100,000 inhabitants.

The New York authorities have allowed Company to lay pipes through all the streets; to convey "hydrogenated fuel," or other heating agents, to every house, just as gas and water are now conveyed. So we

Mr. J. Waterman, the pilot who guided the first steamboat up the Hudson, is still living, 73 years old, in Wayne county, New York. He states that the boat was two weeks on her voyage to Albany.

The well-known Downing Hotel, at Newport, R. I., a favorite resort in the summer season for sporting men, was totally destroved by fire on Saturday night. The hotel was quite an extensive building.

of Congress under the new apportionment. New York will lose two members, and New England three. Illinois will gain five memhers. South Carolina will lose one. Many of the citizens of Texas are putting

Maryland will probably lose one member

off everything of wearing apparel that is manufactured at the North, and coming in full suits of homespun. Spaulding, the "prepared glue" man, gives

a New York paper \$31,600 for a single column of advertisements in all its issues The number of slaves in Maryland is found to have diminished more than fifteen

thousand since 1850. The whole number new is about seventy-five thousand. The President on Wednesday, nominated to the Senate, Edward M. Stanton, esq., as

Attorney General of the United States. jiegt. Geo. E. Daw and Assistant Surgeon Thos. J. Charlton, U. S. N., have resigned.

The long pending suit of Mrs. General Court of the United States in January,

FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

The Empress of the French, while at the station on her way to Perth, had her attention drawn to a soldier in extreme ill-health, but bearing upon his person several decorations for actual service. Prompted doubtless by sympathy for his infirmity, she gave him a small donation, when one of the attendants, with more officiousness than good taste, reminded her Majesty that she had befriended a man who had fought at Waterloo. Then he is the more deserving," replied the Empress, "for he contended with a brave enemy."

Capt. M. F. Maury addressed a crowded meeting of the Royal Geographical Society, in London, on the 26th ult., on the physical geography of the Antartic regions. He was greeted with a very hearty reception, and his address was received with much attention. At the close, Admiral Fitzroy warmly eulogized Captain Maury's exertions in promoting a knowledge of the physical geo-graphy of the sea. The meeting was pre-sided over by Lord Ashburton.

Mr. Beverly Tucker, United States consul in Liverpool, has published a letter in the Liverpool Post, defending the State of Virginia, and the city of Richmond in particular, from the imputations which the treatment of the Prince of Wales at Richmond have given rise to. Mr. Tucker addressed his communication in the first instance to the London Times, but that journal refused to insert it.

The London correspondent of the New Orleans Delta says, there has been an attempt, since the return of the Duke of New Castle to England, to reconcile him to his daughter, who did not marry beneath her station, but against his wish, Lord E. Vane, the son of the Marchioness of Londonderry, who makes £100,000 a year out of coals,

The best of the Neapolitan Bourbons dead. The last foreign news announces the sudden death, by apoplexy, of the Count of Syracuse. This was an uncle of the young ex-King of Naples, Francis II., and a brother of the late King. His name was Leopold Benjamin Joseph, and he was the third son of King Francis I.

The ex-King of Naples is by no means a pauper, notwithstanding the loss of his dominions. His treasure has been conveyed to Paris. According to the reports it is wholly in silver-nine millions of silver dueats-which have been sleeping in peace,

some of them since the days of Masaniello. George H. Hall, who left last spring to pursue the study of his art in Spain, has created a furore by an exhibition of two small fruit-pieces at Seville. The Duke and Duchess of Montpensier had requested to have them sent to the palace, and desired to purchase them, but they were not for sale.

Out of 60,000 men, women and children engaged in the manufacture of ribbons at Coventry, England, and the neighboring hamlets, 40,000 are at the present moment unemployed, and thousands are positively

The London Times has another editorial and expresses the hope that the quarrel may give way to a calm, in which the real difficulties of the slavery question may be met and quietly adjusted. The Dutch government has at last matur-

ed the plans which it has been so long forming for effecting the emancipation of the slaves in her colonies. The masters are to be compensated. The tour of the fascinating and beautiful

Empress Eugenie, of France, to England, occupies almost as much space in the English journals as the visit of the Prince of Wales occupied in our own. The famous Italian beauty, the Countess

Napoleon so much was said two years since, has returned to Paris to pass the winter. Queen Victoria is a good woman-she bought a dozen iron bedsteads and presen-

Castiglione, about whom and the Emperor

ted them to the poor people of Balmoral. The latest details of the colliery explosion in Wales prove that not less than 170 lives were lost.

Sir Henry Marsh, the eminent Dublin physician, died suddenly, on the 2d, from

£65,000 sterling of Peter's "pence" had arrived at Rome from America.

---VIRGINIA NEWS.

In spite of the dull times full two thous and bales of cotton have been sold in Norfoll during the past week. This looks like something was doing, and when we take in to consideration the fact that about 100,000 bushels of corn have been sold in the past eight days, we may congratulate curselves on the fact that there is something doing.

ORANGE COURT .- Monday next, the 24th inst., is Orange county Court-day. The following magistrates constitute the Court Garrett Scott, P. J.; W. W. Tompkins, Thos. R. Towles, Robt. Collins and Thomas Davis,

Sleighs were out at Richmond, Va., on Saturday and Sunday, while in New York the Central Park afforded fine skating for

James E. Schooler, postmaster at Stafford C. H., Stafford county, Va., vice Wm. L.

Convention of Minute Men.

Norrolk, Dec. 19 .- A convention of the Minute Men of Norfolk, Portsmouth, Princess Anne and Norfolk counties, assembled at Ashland Hall to day at 12 o'clock, The Convention was largely attended. Col. Herbert, of Princess Anne, was appointed President, and Mr. Charles Harris, of Norfolk, and R. C. McAlpine, of Portsmouth, Vice Presidents. Col. Herbert, on taking the Chair, made a strong secession speech saying that the day has passed for compre mising, and Virginia should unite with the Southern States against the opposition of

the North. (Loud applause). Strong resolutions favoring the right of se ession and scorning coercion, were passed; each resolution being loudly applauded .-Several strong spenches, favoring secession and urging immediate action, were made .-The Speakers referred to Wade's late speech in the Senate, showing that no concessions are to be expected from the North. The Convention adjourned at four o'clock, P. M.

The Blue Cockade Worn by Negroes.

We learn from the Southerner, a paper published at Bolivar, Tennessee, that the negroes of A. S. Coleman, esq , of that place, created quite a sensation in that town a few blue cockades on their hats. It learns from Mr. Coleman that they requested the privilege of wearing them, as they said, to and their love for their native South.

Within the last six weeks, says the Philaphia Press, not less than 15,000, and perhaps 20,000, persons in that city, have unexpec tedly been discharged from situations where they enjoyed the privilege of earning their the operatives for subsistence.

Bayard Taylor was hissed furiously while tempted apology for Geo. W. Curtis, the Le., all for sale at prices to suit the times. abolition legturer.

Movements North and South.

Gov. Magoffin, of Kentucky, has issued a irenlar to all the Governors of States, stating all the amendments which the South now requires to the federal constitution. To none f them could the Northern States make any reasonable objection. The most important of these propositions, in reference to the future security of southern rights, is one that has been suggested in many quarters, and is likely to meet general approval-that is, to give the Senators from States which are slaveholding, for the time being, a vote upon any bill affecting slavery where it may exist. Some propose that this provision be extended to all legislative subjects, and to the majority of Senators both of the North and the South. This would effect the same object which Mr. Calboun had in view when he proposed a duel executive.

We learn from the Georgia journals that the indications of public sentiment in "the Empire State of the South" are daily becoming more and more reassuring of the hopes cherished by patriots and Southrons like Stephens, Hill, Jenkins, and others, who, in the political difficulties of the hour, have never ceased to hope for the preservation of the Union, while contending with deliberate valor for the constitutional rights of their own section. It appears that sixty-two members of the

Georgia Legislature have signed an address to the people of South Carolina, Alabama, Mississippi, Florida, and other States in convention assembled previous to January 16th, urging them to defer secession until the meeting of the convention of Georgia, which convenes on the 16th of January. They further ask, on behalf of Georgia, that her sister slaveholding States appoint delegates to a general convention of Southern States, for consultation.

Thirty-five conservatives and leading citizens of Massachusetts, of different political parties, have issued an address to the people I the State on the present crisis. This address, after speaking of the perilous condition of the Union, boldly declares that the State of Massachusetts has violated our great national compact, by laws on her statute book, which are in conflict with the constitution and laws of the United States .-And it then proceeds to point out the objectionable features of the "personal liberty"

Governor Moore, of Louisiana, in his re cent message to the Legislature of that State, recommends a conference or convention of the slaveholding States, but secession at all hazards before Lincoln's inauguration.

We are glad to observe by the proceed ings of the North Carolina Legislature that that veteran Democrat, Hon. Bedford Brown, at present a leading member of the State Senate, is battling brayely for the Union in connexion with the constitutional rights of

The Fayetteville Observer has information from various counties in the State of North Carolina, all indicating a strong anti-secession feeling, and a desire to preserve the Union as long as it is possible to do so con sistently with honor. It is now the general opinion that nearly

all the Southern S ates will agree to the call the purpose of adopting a platform whereupon they are to stand in future relations with the non-slaveholding States. The convention will no doubt propose to the nonslaveholding States terms upon which they will remain in the Union. The constitution will then, no doubt, beamended accordingly,

The Charleston papers note the arrival there of eighteen boxes of firearms for the State, from Baltimore, and two hundred boxes from New York. The papers of the same city announce that H. S. Farley, James Hamilton and Geo. N. Roynolds, of South Carolina, have "seceded" from West Point and returned home.

Hon, C. Posev, United States district attorney for the Wilkinson disrrict, Miss., has sent his registration to the President.

The postmaster at Halifax, N. C., has tenlered his resignation to the Postmaster-General, to take effect on the 4th of March next. unless North Carolina secodes before that

FRANCE.-Hitherto, the home policy of Napoleon has been restrictive and despotie: now it suddenly changes and inclines to liberalism. In a recent number of the Monito the French legislature some of its lost privileges. The principal provisions of this important instrument are in substance as Corps Legislatif to vote an annual address in reply to the imperial speech at the openng of each session. Art. 2 ordains that the liscussion on said speech shall take place in the presence of government commissioners, who shall give to the chambers the necessary explanations on the domestic and foreign policy of the empire. Art. 3 revives and modifies Art 5 of the decree of March, '52, which concedes to the legislative body the ight of expressing its opinion on projets de oi, and proposing amendments therein .-Art. 4 announces that a senatus consultum will be passed at the next session, which will render lawful the appointment of reporters to report the proceedings in the respective chambers, copies of which are to be sent every evening to all the Parisian journals, and in extenso reports thereof published in the official paper of the following day. Art. 5 provides for the nomination, by the Emperor, of ministers without port-folios, to defend the measures of the government before the chambers, in concert with the members of the council of state. Such are the most prominent features of Napoleon's new policy; such the most valuable of the privileges which, in the day of his power, and as a free-will offering, he sees fit to restore to the representatives of France. These concessions are so many steps in the direction of a constitutional government, and ought to be very ture and people.

At Buenos Ayres the National Convention has dissolved, after adopting the constitutional reforms, and on October 21 the constitution was solemnly sworn to throughout the province. Buenos Ayres thus becomes reunited with the other provinces of the Argentine Confederation.

CHRISTMAS NOTICE. THE SUBSCRIBERS would respectfully call I the attention of the public, to their assortnent of GOODS suitable for presents at Christnas. They have an unusually large and diversified stock of GOODS in their line, and offer them at the lowest prices. Among their GIFT BOOKS will be found copies of The Lives of the Poets, Women of the South, The Centre Table, Byron Gallery, Folk Songs, Raphael's Madounas, The Forest Hymn, and the Standard Poets, bound in Turkey Antique, and illustrated with the finest Books, Prayer Books, and Bibles, in the most elegant bindings. Their stock of Juvenile Books, Games, &c., is unsurpassed. Rosewood and Mashow their contempt for the Abolitionists, bogany Writing Desks, Writing Cases, Work Poxes. Chessmen, Backgammon Boards, Domihous, Pen Kniver, Gold Pens, &c.

JAMES ENTWISLE & SON.

No. 95, King-street. BOSKS FOR THE HOLIDAYS.—I have received my supply of BOOKS FOR THE HOLIDAYS, which I think will be found full and complete. My stock of JUVENILE EQOKS is brend by the sweet of their brows. Directly | unusually large, and embraces all the most amusand indirectly, probably not less than 50,000 | ing and instructive works of the English and persons depended upon these exertions of the operatives for subsistence.

American press. It is unnecessary to enumerate, as of course, purchasers will call and examine for themselves. I have also a good stock of ANNUALS, ALBUMS, and other CITT EOOKS;

NUALS, ALBUMS, and other CITT EOOKS;

God's name was always called to yindigete. as well as Rosewood and Mahogany Writing delivering a lecture in Brooklyn on Tuesday Desks, best English Ne-Plus Ultra Travelling evening. The cause of offence was an at- Desks, Fort Folias, furnished and unfamished, dec la

THIRTY-SIXTH CONGRESS.

REPORTED FOR THE ALEXANDRIA GAZETTE. In Senate, Thursday, Dec. 20.

The report of the Superintendent of the Coast Survey, was received and referred to the Committee on Printing. Mr. Hunter from the Committee on Finance reported back the bill known as the "Morill Tariff bill," with a recommendation that it be postponed until the fourth of March

mendation were tabled. Mr. Clark, of N. H., called up his resolution of inquiry in regard to the condition of Fort Moultrie, its garrison, the instructions of its commander, &c.

Mr. Lane, hoped that if the resolutions' were taken up, the substitute offered by him a few days since would be adopted. Mr. Trumbull said the resolutions were

merely of inquiry, and ought not to be objected to. Mr. Hunter said that the matter certainly would lead to debate. The question was one which involved the peace of the country.

Mr. Saulsbury hoped that all the friends

of the Union would vote against the resolu-

ion. It would open a dangerous question, and give rise to perilous excitement. Mr. Clark had no intention of stirring up xcitement. He wanted the information. Mr. Hunter said that the discussion of his question might lead to the presentation of facts, that would result in a conflict between the troops of the Federal Government

Mr. Mason said that it would be but a few days before events would take place which would enable Congress to act in the face of open facts. He thought action should

precipitate results which all were anxious to

be delayed until then. Mr. Davis said that the sole difficulty in the matter grew out of the fact that there was a garrison at Fort Moultrie. In Castle. Pinkney and other places, where there was no garrison, there was no difficulty at all .-It was the presence of a garrison to irritate Ohio, Mr. Bigler, of Pa., Mr. Rice, of Minn., the people which would be likely to bring

on a collision. Mr. Clark said he had no wish to excite debate, his object was only to procure infor-

Mr. Trumbull said that Senators had spoken of waging war against a State .-There would be no war waged against a State. The laws would be enforced against

Mr. Mason said that war occurred when the forces of one political power met in conflict the forces of another political power .-If the troops of the General Government met the forces of a State, that would be war. Mr. Trumbull would like to know what

was rebellion. Mr. Mason said rebellion was the resistance to legal authority, by an integral portion of the political body, of which that authority was the head. The hour for the consideration of the

special order having arrived, the Chair was about to call it up, pending which, Mr. Slidell rising to a question of privilege, said he was satisfied that the despatch to which he had alluded, on yesterday, not come from the Agent of the Associated Press in Washington. But, as agents were scattered about the various points of the country and the Association was a unit, he therefore introduced a resolution to exclude from the gallery, all the Reporters of the As-

The Senate then took up Mr. Johnson's

Mr. Pugh, of Ohio, addressed the Senate. He opened with a beautiful allusion to Franklin's omen drawn from the fact that the sun painted behind the chair of the President in the Hall where the members of the Convention signed the Constitution was not a setting but a rising sun. As he understood the pending difficulty, it was not that the federal government has interfered with the rights of the South, but that the States in which the Republican party had obtained power had violated the rights of the Southern States, and had broken plighted faith; and now as that party had obtained the control of the federal government, it was believed that they would administer that government as they had administered the teur, there appears a decree which restores state governments-in derogation of the rights of those states. He hoped that the Republican party would give the South assur-

ances of safety, because he wished the incomfollows :- Art. I authorizes the Senate and ing President to be inaugurated with the confidence of the people. He aliaded to the declaration of his colleague (Mr. Wade) that the day for compromises was past. That Senator had, also, declared that the Republican party could not have aggrieved the South because they had never held the majority. And yet the Senator from N. H. had charged all the Northern Democrats with being traitors to their section: as if it was treason to defend the rights of people who did not belong to that section. Was not this a clear evidence of the animus of the Republican party. Did they not desire to monopolize all the territories of the United States? Did they not nullify the fugitive slave law? Did they not grant suffrage to negroes, until negro votes controlled the great State of Ohio? And were these no grievances? He adverted to the fact that no single Northern Senator had signified his approval of Mr. Crittenden's proposition to put the Missouri compromise into the Constitution. If the two systems could not co-exist, why not divide the territory? If the territories was not sufficient to divide. why not acquire more? If their hatred to slavery was such, that it would not allow slawery to exist anywhere when it had had the power to exclude it, what guarantee had the South that when the Republicans obtained the control of three-forths of the states, they would amend the constitution and abolish valuable in the eyes of the French legisla- slavery in the states. He quoted Mr. Lincoln's record to show that he looked to the extinction of slavery in the States. He urged the Republican members to give peace to the country by a conciliatory proposition. Mr. Wade-You want security for good behavior. (Laughter.)

> his friend had declared that the day of compromises was past. Then the day of Union was past, for the Constitution was a compromise. He besought the Republicans to adopt the compromise of Mr. Crittenden. The times were perilous. A despatch might, at any momen', inform us that a State had declared herself out of the Union, and all knew that five States were making ready to follow. As to the present issue, it involved a question of the sovereignty of the States which had been veiled for eighty years, and upon which rested all the Federal superstructure There was underneath that veil a hidden giant which now showed signs of motion: its voice was storm, and its movements, earthquake. He quoted from numerous political writers of eminence, to show that questions like these were above the powers of any government. His friend from Tennessee instead of looking to the Constitution to find the power of a state to secede, should have looked there to find a prohibition of secession. He denied that the United States government was bound to coerce a seceding State. It was a matter of discretion. Men who were God's name was always called to vindicate an atrocity. The moment war was waged upon a State, conciliation, was at an end. the eloquently depicted the horrors of civil war. If his colleague truly represented the dec 17
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> GREAT VARIETY OF TOYS, for Christ, and the dec 17
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> GREAT VARIETY OF TOYS, for Christ, by dec 17 ROBERT BELL. war. If his colleague truly represented the

Mr. Pugh-Those who intend to behave

well, need not fear to give security. But

sentiments of his constituency, he would deem it a privilege that when the flag on vonder dome was raised to assemble in this Hall less than the representatives of thirtythree States, he would not be here. He con . cluded with a touching picture of an invisible handwriting upon the walls of the Capitol, the words—"Thou art weighed in the balance and found wanting. Thy Kingdom

is divided." (Loud applause.) Mr. Pearce moved that when the Senate adjourn, it be to meet on Monday next. next. On his motion, the bill and recom-Mr. Cameron moved to amend by ad-

ourning until the 1st Monday in January. Mr. Davis, of Miss., hoped that the Senate would remain in session during the holidays for good, if God wills it; for evil if you will have it. Mr. Cameron said he thought it would do good for the members to return hope to their

constituents and their firesides, and come back with kinder and better feelings. Mr. Douglas saw a ray of hope in the gloom. He had seen to-day old men moved by the patriotic appeals of a patriot, and he hoped that the Senate would not adjourn

while the Constitution of the country was in

Mr. Cameron was surprised that the Constitution was thrust into every movement -We can not make a motion to adjourn, but the perils of the Constitution are inter-Mr. Douglas said that it would be better

if the Constitution was brought in oftener, and obeyed better. He believed that civil war was imminent, and thought; that no efand the people of South Carolina, and thus fort to avert it should be spared to save the

Mr. Cameron did not believe the good sense of the people would allow the country to be placed in danger. The chair announced the following com

mittee on the resolution of Mr. Powell, of Ky., that the President's message be referred to a committee of thirteen members: -Mr. Powell, of Ky., Mr. Hunter, of Va., Mr. Crittenden, of Ky., Mr. Seward, of N. Y., Mr. Toombs, of Ga., Mr. Douglas, of Ill., Mr. Collamer, of Vt., Mr. Wade, of

Mr. Doolittle, of Wis, Mr. Davis, of Miss. and Mr. Green, of Mo. Mr. Davis, of Miss., asked to be excused from service on the committee. The present position of his State would preclude him from acting on it. On motion, his request

was granted. The Senate then took up the bill granting the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad the right of way across the Long Bridge, and, after some debate, the bill was made the order of the day for to-morrow, at 12½ o'clock.

The Senate then went into executive ses sion and after some time spent therein, ad-

House of Representatives. The House met at the usual hour. Praver by the Chaplain, Rev. Dr. Stockton.

Mr. Delano laid before the House a report

of the proceedings of the convention of South Carolina, held on the 19th inst, and offered the following resolution: Whereas Hon. Porcher Miles, a member of the House used the following language: written communication to the President, I know this to have been said, If we send a solitary soldier to those forts, the instant the intelligence reaches our people-and we shall

take care that it shall reach us before it shall reach the forts-the forts will be taken, because such a course is necessary to our safesociated Press, and said he would call it up ty and self-preservation." Resolved, That the President be requested to communicate to this House what information he has received, either oral or written, to the effect that if the forts of the

harbor of Charleston are further reinforced, the forts will be taken by any force or authority hostile to the authority and supremacy of the United States. Mr. Humphrey, of New York, from the Committee on the Judiciary, presented the report of that committee on an investigation of the charges preferred against Judge Wa-

trous. The report was ordered to be printed, and made the special order of the day for Thursday next. Also, from the same committee, a bill to

establish a board of investigation of claims; made a special order. Also, a bill to extend the right of appeal

from the district court to the supreme court made a special order. Mr. Bingham, from the same committee, reported a bill for establishing a circuit and

district court in the southern district of Illinois, in the city of Cairo. The House then went into a Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union, and

took up the Pacific railroad bill. Mr. Grow n the chair. Mr. Sherman and Mr. Curtis severally of fered amendments, proposing the Pacific Railroad bill, nearly as it was reported from the select committee on that subject.

Mr. Davis, of Indiana, raised the point that the substitute was not germane, which, The Chairman overruled, and was sustained by the House-ayes 90, noes not counted. The substitute of Mr. Curtis proposes that the road shall start at two points, (from Missouri and Iowa) with connecting lines bearng westward and uniting within two hundred miles of the Missouri river, and thence proceeding by a single trunk line, by the nearest and best route, and by the vicinity of Salt Lake to the city of San Francisco, or

in the State of California. Several of the sections also provide for the Texas route route with two branches. This was agreed to.

Several amendments to it were proposed, one for a northern route from Minnesota to Puget's Sound, but they were rejected. Finally, the Pacific Railroad bill was passedyeas, 95 nays-74. The House then, at 53 o'clock, adjourned.

TI BIK DE TOMBET THE STATE OF T THERE will be two Freight trains next week,

one will leave Alexandria, on Monday, and return on Tuesday, and one on Friday and return J. F. LATHAM, Agent Transportation. dec 20-dlw Orange and Alexandria R. R. Co. TRANSPORTATION OFFICE, M. G. R. R.

December 19, 1860. THERE will be no Freight trains on this road on Monday and Tuesday next. The train

will leave Alexandria on Wednesday and Friday, next week, and return to Alexandria on Thursday WM. S. FEWELL, Agent Transportation.

Manassas Gap Railroad Company. NOTICE.—All persons having claims against the estate of Francis Johnston, decid, are requested to present them-all indebted to

same, will please make early payment. FRANCIS E. JOHNSTON. A. L. McKENZIE. Administrators of Francis Johnston, dec'd. Fairfax County, Va., dec 19-co3t

TEREAFTER, until further notice, the Pas-Railroad will leave and arrive at the regular depot, corner of Duke and Henry streets. J. M. BROADUS, G. T. A. dec 18-tf YOTICE .- Passengers for the Orange and Al

exandria Railroad, are requested to provide themselves with proper change, for the purchase of their tickets. J. M. BROADUS, General Ticket Agent. APPLES! APPLES!!

200 BARRELS PRIME BALDWIN AP-for sale by [dec 15] NATH L. BOUSH.

to the navigable waters of the Sacramento,